

THE DEPLOYMENT OF THE OKLAHOMA NATIONAL GUARD'S 45TH INFANTRY BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, THE OKLAHOMA STABILIZATION TRANSITIONS TEAM AND THE 146TH AIR SUPPORT OPERATION SQUADRON

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Oklahoma National Guard's 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT), the Oklahoma Stabilization Transitions Team and the 146th Air Support Operations Squadron that are set to deploy to Afghanistan in support of the Global War on Terror.

A farewell ceremony honoring more than 3,200 deploying members of the 45th IBCT, the Oklahoma Stabilization Transitions Team and the 146th Air Support Operation Squadron was held at the Oklahoma City Arena and Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Families and friends throughout the state had the opportunity to celebrate the patriotism and courage of Oklahoma's citizen soldiers and airmen. This will be the largest single deployment since the Korean War, an important event in the history of the Oklahoma National Guard.

The 45th IBCT recently began training at Camp Gruber Maneuver Training Center and then they will move to the mobilization station at Fort Bliss, Texas. The brigade is undergoing intense mission specific training that will prepare them for any mission unique tasks that they will be required to perform while deploying to Afghanistan.

I know this is not the first deployment for many of these brave men and women and their families back home. Their collective sacrifice for our nation's security is symbolic of the pride Oklahoma has for our citizen soldiers and airmen serving in times of war and conflict.

I am confident these soldiers and airmen are ready to answer the call in the defense of our nation. With this deployment, they are carrying forward the proud history of this brigade. It is an honor to represent many of these brave citizen soldiers in Congress, and I look forward to supporting their critically important missions to the fullest extent possible. My prayers go out to the soldiers and their families during this deployment. They have my full support and I pray for not only successful missions but their safe return home to their families.

HONORING KEVIN HUNTER

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following.

Whereas, we are saddened by the untimely death of Mr. Kevin Hunter because our lives have been touched by the life of this one man . . . who gave of himself in order for the betterment of our beloved DeKalb County; and

Whereas, Mr. Kevin Hunter's work is present in DeKalb County, Georgia for all to see, being one of DeKalb's favorite sons; and

Whereas, this highly effective civil servant utilized his skills to aid in the growth and development of DeKalb County since 1999; and

Whereas, he gave of himself, his time, his talent and his life as he served his family, his friends and his community; and

Whereas, Mr. Kevin Hunter was a son, a father, a friend and a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of our community; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the fourth district of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a special recognition on Mr. Kevin Hunter for his leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens of Georgia and throughout the Nation as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby attest to the 112th Congress of the United States that Mr. Kevin Hunter of Ellenwood, DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition" by declaring

Mr. Kevin Hunter

U.S. Citizen of Distinction

in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 10th day of March, 2011.

HONORING MAZIE EARLY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Mazie Early. Mazie is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of the USA and earning the high honor of the Gold Award.

Mazie's outstanding achievement reflects her hard work and dedication. Mazie has exhibited unique and creative examples of service that have made a difference in her community. I am confident that she will continue to hold herself to the highest standards in the future. This is an accomplishment for which Mazie can take pride in for the rest of her life.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Mazie Early for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of the USA and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

CONGRATULATING KAY KATZ

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I stand before you today to congratulate Kay Kellogg Katz who is being recognized as the Monroe Rotary Club's Woman of the Year. She is truly deserving of this honor for her exemplary service and dedication to Northeast Louisiana.

A woman who embodies the spirit of public service, Kay's legislative career spans a decade, and she presently serves as a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives. In addition, she is the immediate past Louisiana Republican national committeewoman, which

made her an automatic member of the 168-member Republican National Committee.

Preceding her legislative service, Kay was a valued member of the Monroe City Council. In this capacity, she served as council chairman and as a member of the Street Improvement Committee.

Among her lengthy civic accomplishments, Kay is active with Rotary International, American Heart Association, Ouachita Parish Recycling Commission, Monroe Tree Board, Fort Miro chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Monroe Airport Advisory Committee and Monroe Garden Club.

In addition to her citizenship activities and community organizations, Kay is also a committed patron of the arts through her involvement with the Monroe Symphony and sits on the boards of both the Northeast Louisiana Arts Council and the Louisiana State Arts Council. She served as vice president of the Monroe Little Theatre, and in 2000, the Louisiana Museum Association selected her as "Legislator of the Year." She is also associated with the Masur Museum, University of Louisiana-Monroe (ULM) Art Department, ULM Foundation for the Performing Arts, Children's Museum, Twin City Ballet and Masterworks Chorus.

Kay is a homegrown hero having graduated from Neville High School in Monroe. She went on to obtain her college degree from Mississippi State University.

Her dedication to community and career is exceeded only by her devotion to her loving family. Kay and her late husband Ben Katz are the parents of three. Ben, like his wife, was a faithful public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Kay Kellogg Katz on being named the Monroe Rotary's Woman of the Year. Her commitment, compassion and leadership warrant this laudable recognition.

HONORING THE LATE JUDGE DOUG LUNA

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay special tribute to my friend, the late Judge Douglas Luna. Judge Luna was born in 1944 in Seattle, Washington, where he grew up in the Central District.

Doug Luna served honorably with the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War, assigned to Da Nang until the late 1960s. After returning from his distinguished military service, he completed law school and served as the Deputy Corporate Administrator for The Boeing Company's Small and Minority Business Program. Doug loved the law; he became an administrative law judge for the Washington State Department of Employment Security, and also served as a review judge for the Department of Social and Health Services.

Among Doug Luna's many lasting achievements is the judicial structure he helped to create for Alaska's Tlingit-Haida Tribe. The Tribe was part of his heritage, and he was proud to serve as an elected judge on the Tribal Court for nearly twenty years. Judge